

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6275

BILL NUMBER: HB 1223

DATE PREPARED: Nov 15, 2000

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: County Inmate Public Works Crews.

FISCAL ANALYST: Mark Goodpaster

PHONE NUMBER: 232-9852

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows a county sheriff to establish a program that allows county jail inmates to perform work outside the jail on county inmate public works crews. It specifies inmate eligibility requirements for participation on crews. It requires inmates to dress in distinctive county jail uniforms while performing work on crews. It allows a sheriff to require a crew to perform any work the sheriff determines to be appropriate and of benefit to the community except for work involving the construction, reconstruction, alteration, or renovation of a public building, airport facility, or other structure that is paid for out of a public fund or out of a special assessment.

Effective Date: July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The fiscal impact of this bill depends upon the voluntary adoption of county inmate public works crews by sheriffs. (Inmates would not be allowed to work on construction, reconstruction, alteration, or renovation of public structures.) New expenditures could occur for added staff or overtime to supervise inmates and for uniform costs for inmates. Expenditure savings may occur if these programs reduce personnel costs for other local governmental services.

Under current law, sheriffs are permitted to assign inmates to a work party formed to perform any work the sheriff determines to be of benefit to the community. The Department of Correction reports that during the period between April and September 1999, seven counties operated work programs involving approximately 275 inmates.

This bill would also restrict the types of offenders who could participate in the programs. Offenders not eligible to participate in a work crew include persons committed to the Department of Correction; disapproved by the sentencing court; or individuals convicted of violent crimes, forcible felonies, or sex offenses.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: County Sheriff.

Information Sources: Department of Correction, IC 11-12-5-2.